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A ghostly gathering
Performers at last week's Let's Make an Opera at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion. The locally-written shows drew a full house. /TIM YANO staff photographer

Mysteries of the woods

Exploring the story of Bigfoot at Haliburton Forest

EMILY STONEHOUSE
Editor

It's been an age-old mystery, but the key to Bigfoot may be right in our backyard.

Recently, Haliburton Forest and Wild Life Reserve was selected as a location for *Sasquatch University* - a reality TV show dedicated to chasing the trail of the infamous legend - to explore for signs of the mysterious beast.

The show was spearheaded by former Trent University student Ryan Willis. "My interest in this started years ago," said Willis during a recent phone interview, noting he grew up watching the show *Finding Bigfoot*. "It sort of stayed with me through my teenage years, and when I went to Trent, I started the Trent University Sasquatch Society. We became a really big club, and it evolved into the show."

Sasquatch University is aired on Wild TV, a cable channel for outdoors-based programming. Now in its third season, the show is picking up speed, with over 1.1 million viewers last season. "It's really cool to see other people take an interest in this," said Willis.

Willis and his production team operate based on tips and recommendations. "We get a lot of tips," he said. "And we've gotten a fair amount of sightings reported to us from Haliburton. Everywhere up there, we have people who have seen something."

Sasquatch University first explored the region in their first season, but based on the sprawling geography of the area, decided to revisit for season three.

In this particular season, Willis and his crew are taking a slightly different approach. "We're putting more energy into the spiritual side of Sasquatch," he said. "Is it something that's flesh and blood, or can it move interdimensionally?"

The terms "Bigfoot" and "Sasquatch" can be used interchangeably, with the latter being the original term, derived from the Halkomelem Salish word "Sasq'ets," meaning "wild man" or "hairy man".

In 1958, "Bigfoot" came into the scene, after large, unexplained footprints were discovered, and seems to be the more widely used name for the creature in the modern era. But whether it's a species as a whole, an individual entity, or simply a story passed down through the generations, Willis and his team are dedicated to getting to the bottom of it.

When asked if he had seen the creature himself, Willis chuckled. "I hate this answer," he said, but my answer is always 'maybe'. So many different people have seen different things, and we've had a lot of different times where spooky things have happened to us."

Willis noted a number of times that he has heard knocking on trees, or rocks being thrown around the film crew. He believes that there is something out there, but he's on a mission to discover exactly what it is.

In the process, *Sasquatch University* has been working with various Indigenous communities to understand the history of the stories, as well as any iterations of the legend that may put the pieces of the puzzle together for the Bigfood hunters today. "What keeps me going is the volume of people reaching out and saying that they have seen different things," said Willis.

When the crew visited Haliburton

see LOOKING page 15

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County council moves ahead with new build

EMILY STONEHOUSE
Editor

The wheels are in motion for the redevelopment of Haliburton County staff spaces and council chambers.

After extensive debate and a close vote, County Council made the decision to move ahead with the Land Registry Office (LRO) and administration building renovation project at their meeting in August.

Staff were given direction to seek the financial implications of the project, and released a request for tender (RFT) on Sept. 24, which closed on Oct. 9. Two bids were received for this project: Perfectly Built Inc. at $1,967,478, and Icon Builders Inc. coming in at $2,240,892.

On Oct. 22, during a regular meeting of county council, Sylvin Cloutier, director of public works for the county, brought a report to council outlining the details around the bids. The original budgeted amount for the renovation project was $2,435,155, and staff recommended that they proceed with the lower bid price.

Councillor Bob Carter, the mayor of Minden Hills, dove in for questions first. "I believe this company has not done work for us in the past," he said. "Do we check references?"

He noted the process for hiring internally requires extensive background checks, but when delegating work outside the company for large-scale projects, there seems to be a gap.

Andria Robinson, the manager of human resources, was able to answer.

> ***"Unfortunately it's become the cost of doing business … these are the numbers we are going to be looking at."***
>
> — County Councillor Lisa Schell

"Yes, it is part of the tender process," she said. "We do request references and then they are checked during the compliance part."

"Their references did check out," echoed Cloutier. "We did check their references and everything was okay."

He noted that part of the tender process, though, was that it was awarded based on the lowest bid. "They do have different items within the tender in order to be compliant," explained Robinson. "With it being a tender, we do have a duty to reward to the lowest client bidder, and part of that compliance is meeting the reference checks. That process was completed."

Robinson confirmed that the lowest bidder was indeed compliant, therefore they do have a duty to follow through with the submitted organization, as it is also within the approved budget.

In reference to the price point, Councillor Lisa Schell said it "makes all of our stomachs turn a little bit." But she was quick to note that she thinks that's the reality of the economy these days. "Unfortunately it's become the cost of doing business … these are the numbers we are going to be looking at."

Councillor Walt McKechnie was quick to note that there were no local bids received, as both companies operate outside the county. "How was it advertised?" echoed Councillor Murray Fearrey, the mayor of Dysart et al, "because the ones I talked to didn't see any ads."

Robinson shared that they advertise using a Bids and Tenders process. "But that's not in the local paper," said Fearrey. "No, not in the local papers," answered Robinson.

"Our procurement procedure process is well known in the community as to how we bid," said county CAO Gay Dyke. "In our opinion, based on the length of time we've been doing it, our process is not a hindrance for people to bid."

"Typically all the bids and tenders we do are roads," countered Fearrey. "This is the first bid on a building that I know about in 20 years here. So they probably wouldn't know. Anyway, it's done now, so let's move on."

Fearrey inquired about supervision onsite, to which Cloutier noted there would be a third-party project manager overseeing the development.

Council gave the green light to move ahead with an agreement with Perfectly Built Inc., with a recommended bid price of $2,002,105.61, including nonrecoverable tax.

County road safety seemingly forgotten in fall

EMILY STONEHOUSE
Editor

While the pops of orange and red are lovely amongst the trees this time of year, local construction workers are worried for their safety on the roadways. "It's been severe this year," said Greg Robinson, the operations manager for the County of Haliburton. "Distracted driving is 90 per cent of what we're dealing with."

Robinson noted that while road workers are aware of the risks associated with the job, this year has been particularly bad when it comes to safety on the sidelines. With required vests in colours that now match the foliage, many workers aren't spotted as quickly as they once were; particularly with distracted drivers.

"We have drivers flying through the stop sign, not even seeing us," he said. "They'll reverse back and apologize, saying they were on their phones or something, but they don't even see the signs."

Robinson and his crew start road maintenance around the third week of March, and continue until the snow flies. Right now, their priorities are focused on brush maintenance along roadways, in an effort to open up sight lines through the twists and turns of the county roads. "The work we're doing is to help the public," he said. "But the public is fighting us."

The uptick in dangerous driving forced the county to release a public statement recently, urging drivers to be mindful of their surroundings. "As road maintenance and construction projects continue across the Haliburton Highlands, residents and visitors are being reminded to be on the look out and drive with caution through all road work areas," it said. "The County of Haliburton and local municipalities are urging motorists to slow down, stay alert, and obey all posted signs and directions when travelling through construction and maintenance zones."

The press release noted that reduced speed limits and temporary lane changes are in place to protect both drivers, and the dedicated crews working to keep the roads safe and maintained.

With crew members needing to hop into ditches to escape oncoming cars, Robinson has made the suggestion for staff to start wearing body-cameras, in an effort to capture license plates and distracted drivers.

Fines for speeding in Ontario construction zones are doubled, and depend on how much the limit is exceeded. For speeding past 50 kilometres an hour, penalties include a license suspension and vehicle impoundment.

While the fines are steep for speeding through construction sites, the enforcement behind these regulations is difficult to put into effect. "The OPP are busy," said Robinson, "and our guys are jumping out of the way so fast, they can't see the plates."

Robinson hopes to implement the cameras in 2026, for the safety of his crews. He noted that while there have been some close calls, his team has been safe this season so far. "But there are way more distractions now," he said. "It's trending towards something bad."

The county employs 27 staff within the roads department, with 13 full-time and the remainder working through seasonally. "We need to remind the public that these are just people on the roads," said Robinson. "We all have families at the end of the day that we want to go home to."

Have a thought, comment or opinion you'd like to share?

Send a letter to the editor to
emily@haliburtonpress.com

Pioneering volunteer dental outreach clinic winds down

AMANDA DUNCOMBE–LEE

Guest Columnist

Haliburton County's Volunteer Dental Outreach (VDO) is winding down operations after nearly 15 years of serving patients in need in the community.

Local dentist and clinic co-founder Dr. Bill Kerr said the clinic has served 1,310 patients since its inception in 2011, providing 4.7 million dollars worth of free dentistry.

The mission of the pioneering rural clinic is to provide free dental care for low-income Haliburton County residents who have nowhere else to turn for dental care. Patients typically have no dental insurance, and lack significant income to obtain dental care.

In 2009, Kerr and a fellow dental hygienist Lisa Stoughton had the idea to start up a free dental clinic after an annual visit to Honduras, where they were providing free dental care to school children.

"I was flying back [with the hygienist] and I said, these kids in Honduras really need us, but in our own county of Haliburton there's a big population who cannot afford dentistry and who never go to the dentist…[who] just go to the emergency department to get antibiotics and pain killers so that the pain subsides. That's when it started as an idea," said Kerr.

The following year, with the help of his wife Lisa Kerr, Stoughton, and then-councillor Janis Parker, Kerr obtained clinic space on Mountain Street in Haliburton at a low cost from the Municipality of Dysart.

"It got out into the community and we had the whole county come around us and fundraise. Contractors donated their time, Haliburton Timber Mart gave us materials at cost, and we just built this clinic," said Kerr.

The clinic provided a range of dental work over the years to fill the need, from fillings to extractions, root canals, dentures, cleanings, preventative education, and diet consultations. The work was completed by countless volunteer dentists, dental assistants, and hygienists, along with some paid staff.

Before obtaining charitable status, VDO initially partnered with SIRCH Community Services to fundraise. They soon became a registered charity and set a major fundraising milestone with the Volunteer Dental Outreach Annual Golf Tournament. Supporters and partners also arranged bowling tournaments and lakeside concerts.

When Lisa Kerr passed away in 2023, the annual golf event became the Lisa Kerr Memorial Golf Tournament. Memorial donations to VDO allowed the charity to buy a brand-new dentist chair in her honour.

In 2023, VDO partnered with the Ontario Government and HKPR District Health Unit and were operating the Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program out of the VDO office, helping more people in the community. But with the roll out of the Canadian Dental Care Plan (CDCP) for patients over age 65 who were low income, these patients were no longer eligible for VDO because they could go to any dental office.

In May 2025, the federal government rolled out the CDCP for all age groups. With all patients now being eligible for affordable dental care, the VDO saw less and less patients over the spring and summer. Kerr saw his last VDO patient on Sept. 25.

Kerr said the experience has been "bittersweet."

"It was our baby. My wife and I, with the help of so many other people in the community hatched this, and it was near and dear to our hearts," he said. "[The CDCP] is great for Canadian dentistry because there was just such a huge segment of the population that had no access to care both inside and outside the county," he said.

"There are very few volunteer dental outreaches anywhere else in Canada, so there were millions of people that did not have access to dental care and now do."

Kerr estimated it will take approximately six months to wind down the charity according to guidelines and they will voluntarily give up their charitable status in 2026. Kerr's Minden office, Dentistry in the Highlands, has agreed to manage dental records for VDO patients who have had CDCP and are starting at a different dental office. From now until the end of this year they can contact VDO at 705-457-3111 to request records, or the dental office can call VDO directly and they will ensure records are transferred.

In the new year patients must contact Dentistry in the Highlands directly to get records to dental offices.

There will be a celebration event in the spring of 2026 to honour VDO's volunteers, partners, donors, patients, and accomplishments over the charity's remarkable 15-year run.

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Working towards a good cause

The Haliburton County Historical Society hosted a dinner over the Thanksgiving weekend to raise money for the Haliburton Rotary Club's Skyline Park projects. Last Thursday night, the club gave a cheque in the amount of $2,500 to the Rotary Club during their regular meeting. Proceeds will go towards the ongoing beautification project that Rotary is leading for Skyline Park. /submitted

Progress in connecting residents to local primary care

The Kawartha Lakes Haliburton Ontario Health Team (KLH-OHT) today announced significant progress in strengthening access to primary care across the region. Working with Family Health Teams, Nurse Practitioner-Led Clinics, Community Health Centres, and independent physician practices, the KLH-OHT is helping unattached residents connect with a primary care provider.

As part of this system-wide effort, the KLH-OHT is currently working through the Health Care Connect (HCC) waitlist to match patients with new or expanding primary care teams. Residents without a primary care provider are encouraged to register online at www.ontario.ca/healthcareconnect or call 1-800-445-1822.

Importantly, residents no longer need to "de-roster" from their existing provider (for example, if they are still rostered to a doctor or nurse practitioner in another community far away). Registering with HCC will not affect current care but will help the KLH-OHT identify who in the community is actively seeking a new provider closer to home. This updated process helps ensure that all residents who want to access care locally are counted and prioritized appropriately.

As of October 2025, the KLH-OHT is pleased to report that:

- 700 new patients are being attached at the Haliburton Highlands Family Health Organization
- 100+ new patients are being attached to Nurse Practitioners and/or Family Physicians practices in Bobcaygeon, Woodville and Lindsay
- Various primary care providers across the KLH-OHT geography continue to expand capacity to welcome more patients as they build capacity across the system.

These efforts represent important progress toward building a stronger, more equitable primary care foundation - one that ensures every resident has access to comprehensive, team-based care close to home.

The KLH-OHT thanks all residents for their patience as this important work continues and encourages everyone seeking a local provider to register with Health Care Connect today.

"So much of health begins with primary care," says Stephanie MacLaren, executive director of the KLH-OHT. "Working through this monumental task takes deep partnership and commitment. Our shared goal is to strengthen access because primary care is not only the front door to the health system; it is also a cornerstone of healthy communities. We are grateful for the Ontario government's investment in primary care and the work of the Primary Care Action Team."

For more information, visit www.klhoht.ca or follow our updates on social media. About Kawartha Lakes Haliburton Ontario Health Team

Kawartha Lakes Haliburton Ontario Health Team (KLH-OHT) is a group of healthcare providers and organizations as well as patient, family and caregiver members working together toward a common goal of improving health outcomes. Our purpose is to have a relentless focus on supporting people to live their healthiest possible life.

We are working towards:

- Working with health service providers to better coordinate care offered in Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton County
- Improving access to the right provider at the right place at the right time
- Making it easier for you to find information about local health services
- Offering opportunities where you can provide feedback to the KLH-OHT and have a say in your healthcare.

Submitted

Gary Burtch

Lifetime Achievement Ontario Home Builders' Association 2025

Picture above taken as Gary Burtch was presented his award by Chair Christina Giannone and CEO Scott Addision of OHBA.

Gary established his company, G.J. Burtch Construction Enterprises Ltd. in 1984. He continues to mentor and advise new contractors and business owners daily. Gary is a licensed carpenter who has enabled and fostered the developed of dozens of trade apprentices. The achievements of his company clearly demonstrate the influence he has had.

Gary has been involved in the Haliburton County Home Association (HCHBA) since its inception in 1992. He closely oversees the association and shares his expertise. He is a strong voice at the Ontario Home Builders' Association (OHBA) board table representing the interests of small locals in Ontario. Sometimes very vocal about the interests of the small local members.

Gary has contributed significantly to the industry through his involvement on various local and provincial boards and committees, including the Ontario Building Code Commission (OBC) and Home Construction Regulatory Authority (HCRA) Advisory Committee. He founded his local association and served as Executive Officer and President for years. Gary was also an influential voice on the Ontario Building Code's SB-7. He taught three construction courses at Sir Sanford Fleming College and frequently spoke in high school classrooms. He received the Canadian Home Builders' Association (CHBA) award of honour and was the feature on the cover of Home Builder Magazine.

Gary had led by example in his leadership with his own business and as a member of the association. Quality and customer service have been number one for 41 years. He may have passed on his business on to his son, Andrew Burtch, but Gary is still involved in day-to-day operations providing an ear to listen and a shoulder to lean on.

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Harvest Haliburton seeks new food system connections

AMANDA DUNCOMBE–LEE

Guest Columnist

Harvest Haliburton (HH) is bringing together a group of growers, sellers, agencies, researchers, program operators, and members of the public for a new conversation around growing a stronger local food system.

The HH Local Food Forum will be hosted on Nov. 7, 2025 at the Pinestone Resort in Haliburton, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Registration is free and open to the public. The event will feature a number of presentations and booths as well as networking opportunities over a lunch provided by SIRCH Community Services.

Andy Gordon, HH committee member and director at U-Links Centre for Community-Based Research, will be MC'ing the event along with Brian Nash, a board member at Rotary International.

HH was founded in 2008 as an initiative of the Haliburton County Community Co-operative to develop and nurture a sustainable local food system. The group commissioned a variety of reports over the years, including a recent report on the role of apple trees in Haliburton's local food system – the result of a collaboration with U-Links and Trent University. HH hosted a Food and Agriculture Economic Development Forum in 2019 shortly before the COVID-19 pandemic reduced its activities. They have recently been working on bolstering its efforts and welcoming new members.

"We thought, there are all these issues that different people are facing; the County of Haliburton official plan is coming out for review, why don't we try to gather everybody together, start with a clean slate," said Gordon.

Sara Epp, associate professor of rural planning and development at the University of Guelph, is the forum's keynote speaker. Her presentation, "Planning for Agriculture in Haliburton: Exploring the relationship between farming, food and land use planning," will explore aspects of agricultural sustainability in rural communities such as Haliburton County.

Epp has worked extensively with rural communities in southern and northern Ontario and has research interests related to rural land use, food security, migration, and agri-food systems.

The forum will feature fifteen additional presenters, including the Haliburton County Farmers Market Association, Rising Sun Gardens, Waverley Brook Farm, Foodland Haliburton, County of Haliburton Agri-Tourism, SIRCH, and the Food Alliance.

Gordon said the November forum will be followed by a second one in 2026.

"By that time we'll be well into official planning. That's an opportunity for Harvest Haliburton and others to have input into the municipal planning process," he said.

Gordon said a big question for the upcoming forum is how the community can collectively take in the food production that exists right now, and pair it with local venues for retailing and dispensing it into the public; creating something that would register as a sustainable local food system.

"This a great county for local food production," said Gordon. "We need some help both from citizens buying products but also from the municipal government. Local food production is never going to supplant the amount the food that we need as a county to survive on, but it's a really good place to grow and produce food, and it's done in a gorgeous environment, as well."

Forum registration and agenda items can be found at www.harvesthaliburton.com. Registration is requested in advance. Inquiries can be directed to harvesthaliburton@gmail.com or to forum coordinator Jean Tyler at 705-457-2214.

County of Haliburton implements all–way stop in Eagle Lake

In response to safety concerns and rising traffic incidents, the County of Haliburton is installing an all-way stop control at the intersection of County Road 14 (Haliburton Lake Road) and County Road 6 (Eagle Lake Road) in the Municipality of Dysart et al. The installation for this new all-way stop occurred Thursday, Oct. 23.

What's changing?

- Two new stop signs will be installed on CR 14 (both directions).
- The existing stop signs on CR 6 will remain in place.
- "ALL-WAY" tabs will be added beneath all four stop signs.
- Advisory "Stop Ahead" signs with "NEW" tabs will be placed on CR 14 to alert drivers of the new traffic pattern.

Why the change?

A recent investigation by Public Works found that drivers on County Road 6 face severely restricted sightlines when entering or crossing County Road 14. Contributing factors include a rock cut on the northeast corner of the intersection and a horizontal curve on CR 14, in addition to a nearby building obstructing westbound visibility. Moreover, the intersection has experienced right-angle and turning collisions - patterns consistent with inadequate sight distance and two-way stop conditions. Traffic volumes in the Eagle Lake area have also been growing.

"The conversion to an all-way stop at this location brings the intersection into alignment with Ontario Traffic Manual (OTM) standards and will improve driver awareness, reduce confusion and lower the risk of collisions," said Sylvin Cloutier, director of public works.

The County urges all drivers to take note of the new traffic arrangement, obey the stop signs in all directions, and drive with caution as they adjust to the changed intersection control.

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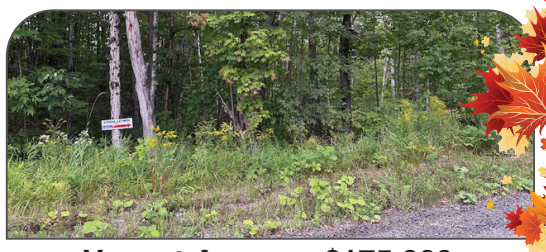
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The same team

Editorial

Emily Stonehouse

It'S AN exciting time if you're a baseball fan.

The first time the Toronto Blue Jays have made it to the finals since 1993.

As someone who has quite literally never seen a single baseball game, I was surprised to notice a flicker of excitement at the team's successes.

Not because I understand a thing about the sport, but because there's a flow of palpable camaraderie that emerges when our country is unified on such topics.

When I drive through town and see posters of the team in neighbourhood windows, small-businesses changing their neon signs to say 'Go Jays' with mix-matched letters, locals tipping hats at their crosswalk companions wearing a matching Jays jersey, it makes you feel like you're a part of something bigger than yourself.

All of this town, this province, this country is currently cheering for this team.

And for once, we're all on the same team - together.

There's a buzz to that, a feeling of inclusion that so often falls between the cracks.

And while I will be cheering as loudly as the next guy, sometimes the rallying offers a startling reminder that we have the capacity to be on the same team. So often, we just choose not to be.

It's baffling to me that sports are the platform that seems to unite us, while conflicting access to human rights keeps us at odds.

And don't get me wrong, I appreciate any opportunity where we are united. I too have woken up at dawn to watch Olympic hockey, to cheer from the rooftops when gold medals are earned, when teams make it to the next round, when athletes climb to the tops of those well-deserved podiums.

But when topics of politics, basic income, human rights and dignity, or sexual orientation (to name a few) come to the table, we are divided.

Why is that? Small picture topics sew our lands together, while big picture items cause tremors and riffs; a crackling gnash on the topography of Canadian soil.

As we approach this season of giving; the time where fundraisers and community events come to the forefront in an effort to better the lives of our own community members, let us know that we are not all that different. We are capable of finding common ground, of seeing eye-to-eye, of cheering for the same team.

So often, we just choose not to. We opt to observe differences in finance, in privilege, in beliefs and visions and outlooks and dreams.

But while we navigate the needs of our community, just remember that we are all on the same team.

And every team is only as strong as its weakest player.

Don't be tricked by deceptive design

Humans & Technology

Erin Kernohan-Berning

IF YOU have ever opened Facebook to check "just one thing" and found that hours later you were still on it, you may have fallen prey to one of the many elements of deceptive design employed to keep you glued to that app (sometimes referred to as "dark patterns").

For any app or website or online service that you use, there are numerous design decisions that went into it – how is it going to work, what should the person using it click on, where should the login button be, among many others. Basically, if there is a thing you interact with on a screen, a design decision went into making that thing the way it is. Many of these decisions centre around usability. This includes putting elements where users expect them to be (why many sites have login buttons on the top right of the screen, or navigation links at the top), making sure everything functions on multiple devices, ensuring that error messages are clear, understandable, and allow the user to correct what they need to.

Design decisions can also be persuasive and nudge the user towards specific actions needed to use the service or app effectively. Nudges tend to help the user, such as ATM machines requiring you to retrieve your bankcard before dispensing cash so you don't forget your card. Persuasive design elements should guide the user but still make it easy enough for the user to choose what they want to do. It should be in the best interests of the user, rather than the interests of the corporation offering the app.

When persuasive design tips into benefiting the corporation over the user, that's where we start to see deceptive design; choices that prompt the user to act contrary to their own interests. Once you understand what some of these design elements are, and what they are trying to get you to do, you'll start to see them everywhere.

One deceptive element you may have noticed is called "confirmshaming." This is when a retail website prompts you to sign up for their marketing emails, usually with the promise of a discount. Usually this happens via a pop-up with a prominent text box to enter your email, a big friendly button to submit that email, and then much smaller text that lets you opt out – usually saying "No, I don't like deals" or similarly passive aggressive language. The choice whether or not to give your email to a company is not presented as an equal choice, and the interface attempts to shame the user into providing that information. Sometimes the only way to clear the window is through an "x" button, which may be tiny, poorly contrasted with the background and hard to find, or located in an unexpected place on the pop-up (like the top left).

Preselection is a very common tactic when it comes to website cookies, which track your online behaviour and allow companies to target ads to your interests. Websites often provide a one-click option to accept all cookies, but require several clicks to disable cookies related to ad tracking. Social media sites, notably, will often preselect privacy settings for you that benefit their ad revenue over your actual privacy, necessitating you having to wade through multiple screens before being able to make your own choices. These companies are counting on you taking the path of least resistance and just accepting what they want you to.

In the Facebook example I mentioned at the start, you may have gotten caught up by infinite scroll and autoplay. By feeding you a never-ending parade of new content and playing videos automatically, apps that utilize this kind of design undermine your ability to break away from that feed by presenting something new and novel over and over and over again. Keeping your attention locked to these apps ensures more ads get served up to you thereby increasing revenue for Meta, TikTok, and other companies that use that kind of design.

Many deceptive design elements go against consumer protection and privacy laws, with most of the legal action against companies employing these tactics occurring in the EU where such laws tend to be comparatively strict. As a consumer, learning what kind of design elements might be manipulating you can be a source of empowerment. Recognizing deceptive design can help you to see through those efforts and make better decisions – rather than big tech companies making decisions for you.

points of view

Nailed it

Loon Tales

Steve Galea

ON FRIDAY afternoon, I stepped on a rusty nail. This was not my intent.

Normally, I try to avoid stepping on nails.

As always, I learned a couple of things from the experience. First and foremost, it's incredible how high a person can hop using just one leg. Second, if you need a low-cost way to keep your Crocs on while hopping on one leg, this is definitely a contender.

Otherwise, I wouldn't recommend this as an activity.

Needless to say, I visited our Emergency Room, but only for a tetanus shot.

As for removing the nail from my foot part, I am a bit of a do-it-yourselfer.

In fact, it comes so naturally to me that I have to believe that removing a nail from your own foot is something that mankind mastered long ago.

I suspect it began something like this.

"Hey guys, I invented this high-tech fastener I call the nail," the inventor said.

"Cool," another muttered. "Can I see it?"

At that point he pulled the nail out of his foot.

I know it sounds bad, but my experience could have been worse. For instance, I could have stepped on a screw. Then I would have been hopping around the garage yelling, "Have you seen my red Robertson driver?"

Ironically, when you are one-quarter crucified for a second or two, yelling "Jesus Christ" seems to come naturally. And for that, I hope I am forgiven.

Back to the ER experience. When you limp into the Emergency Room wearing a blood-filled Croc, your immediate urge is to tell the person admitting you that this is not who you are.

You want to tell them that you are an interesting and intelligent person. You want to discuss your hobbies, your work, perhaps the great books you have read, or a host of other things. Sadly, the conversation never turns to that.

Instead, the doctor eventually makes his or her way to you, looks at your foot, while trying not to be too judgmental of the fact that you are wearing Crocs in October, and says, "You stepped on a nail?"

You nod.

"We will get you a tetanus shot then," he says.

Then he leaves, presumably thinking, "I spent all that time in medical school for this?"

Minutes later, a nurse enters the cubicle with a needle in hand and says, "Which arm?"

Again, she's a professional, so she makes no mention of the Crocs. (I suspect this was an important part of the nursing school curriculum.) Then, she administers the tetanus shot and sends me on my way, with instructions to keep my feet clean and dry for the next few days – which I suspect is a fancy nursing school way of saying, "Don't wear Crocs."

Was there an upside to any of this?

Well, it got me out of making dinner.

Also, when Jenn met me at the door, she was relieved to see that I was ambulatory. Then she asked me if I was in any pain.

I told her I was not. Then I told her that the doctor said she would have to wash my feet for the next few nights. She laughed and suggested we get a second opinion.

But when she looked down at my foot, she was so horrified that she blanched.

"Oh my God ... Crocs?" she said.

Suffice it to say, Jenn never went to nursing school.

pic *of the* **past**

Elizabeth and Blaine Robertson, Ingoldsby locals, photographed in the early 1800s. Do you have pictures of your local relatives from the 19th century? We would love to see them. Send them to emily@haliburtonpress.com./FILE

Too close for comfort

Our road

Sharon Lynch

JAKE HAD needed this week. After a frantically busy summer and early fall, he had arrived at the old cottage feeling beaten down and tired. So a break was just the thing to restore balance and sanity to his life.

Despite the cool temperatures, the trees still shone in the crisp sunlight and the lake sparkled its timeless wonder. Looking out over the water where five mallards glided near shore, Jake told himself this was the way life was supposed to be.

Jane was indoors, prepping for what he knew would be an amazing stew. Their little dog Jeffrey watched her every move hoping something just might drop onto the floor. Feeling restless, Jake announced he was going for a walk over to the public launch and wanted to take Jeffrey with him. Upon hearing his name, the small canine started wagging his tail in anticipation.

So they set out. The oak trees were ablaze in magenta, dramatic against the yellow birch. Above the horizon the powder blue sky was endless. Jeffrey found something interesting to sniff every so often. As they moved along, Jake let his mind wander. He speculated about the people who built shoreline mansions, or those content with small and slightly shabby cabins right next door. It appeared all the boats had been stored away, either pulled up on shore or secluded away in a marina. Jake still had the canoe waiting in case he felt the urge to go for a paddle this week. For him, gliding over the dark waves was one of the best stress-busters he knew.

Because of the late season, he didn't expect to see many people as he and Jeffrey made their way along the cottage road. Perhaps another dog walker but nothing like the busyness of summer. Now and then a car or truck crept by, usually a contractor or maintenance person at the wheel. A friendly wave was always in order from both sides.

They crossed the little bridge, barely wide enough for a vehicle and continued on. Then out of the blue a huge dog appeared, leaping up against Jake's chest in greeting and almost pushing him over. Jake had no time to react. Possibly a mix of Retriever and German Shepherd, the animal gazed into Jake's face before turning its attention to Jeffrey. In a quick move the large canine had Jeffrey's entire head in its mouth while the little dog stood motionless and obviously frozen with terror.

A voice called out to the big animal and Jake looked up to see an elderly woman with a cane a short distance up ahead. "Don't call the Humane Society on me," she pleaded as she drew closer, the dog now at her side. Jeffrey seemed physically unharmed though traumatized by the encounter.

Shaking his head in disbelief, Jake quickly turned around and backtracked. It was more than enough excitement for one day.

Art Heaven is back at Rails End Gallery

Blessed are the art items that gather dust in your attic. Rails End Gallery has good news for the paintings that once adorned your walls, pottery that once matched your kitchen tiles, and handcrafted treasures from studio tours long past. The resurrection is at hand.

The Rails End Gallery angels are now accepting donations of fine art and handcrafted treasures for Art Heaven 2025 during regular gallery hours (Sat. 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wed. to Fri. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.).

Pack up the original artworks, ceramics, jewellery, glass art and sculptures that you no longer display and bring them to Rails End Gallery, 23 York Street, Haliburton. The arts and crafts you once loved will have an afterlife in a new home. Rails End Gallery volunteers will curate donated art items and offer them for sale to new owners at excellent prices.

The Pearly Gates to Art Heaven will open Friday, Nov. 14 with a reception from 4 p.m. til 6 p.m. Come and select your Christmas gifts from a wide selection of affordably priced, pre-owned and pre-loved art. This event helps fund community arts programming like the annual exhibition of student work, interactive exhibitions, demos and community outreach.

Check www.railsendgallery.com for more information. Art Heaven at Rails End Gallery promises to breathe new life into art and keep it in circulation for all eternity.

Submitted

Community leaders

The 17th annual Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce was held last Friday at the Haliburton Legion. The winners of the evening are as follows:
- Industry and Skilled Trades: Hodgkinson Builds
- Leadership Business Achievement: Brandi Hewson
- Tourism and Hospitality: Haliburton Post House
- Young Professional: Chelsea Adamson
- Professional Services: Haliburton County Chiropractic & Rehabilitation
- New Business of the Year: Haliburton Village Pharmacy
- Business Woman of the Year: Nicole Mee
- Warden's Award: Brooksong Retreat & Cancer Support Centre
- Employer of the Year: Boshkung Brewing Co.
- Customer Service - Employee: John Watson
- Customer Service - Business: Northern HVAC Co.
- Established Business: Wind in the Willows Spa
- Not-for-Profit: Haliburton Youth Unlimited - The Bridge Youth Centre
- Retail Business: Coneybeare's Butcher Shop
- Highlander of the Year: Andrew Hodgson

Photo and winners list from Jamie Schmale

Bancroft OPP lay impaired charges for Minden resident

Members of the Bancroft Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) have charged one person with impaired operation.

On Saturday, Oct. 18, 2025, just after 8 p.m., Bancroft OPP officers were conducting traffic patrol on Hastings Street North in the Town of Bancroft. Officers conducted a traffic stop for a vehicle driving suspiciously. An Approved Screening Device was used during the stop, as a result the driver was transported to the detachment for further testing.

A 58-year-old resident of Minden has been charged with the following:
- Operation while impaired - alcohol
- Operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (80 plus)

The accused's licence was suspended for 90 days and their vehicle impounded for seven days. The accused was released from custody and is scheduled to appear at the Ontario Court of Justice in Bancroft on Nov. 4, 2025.

Submitted

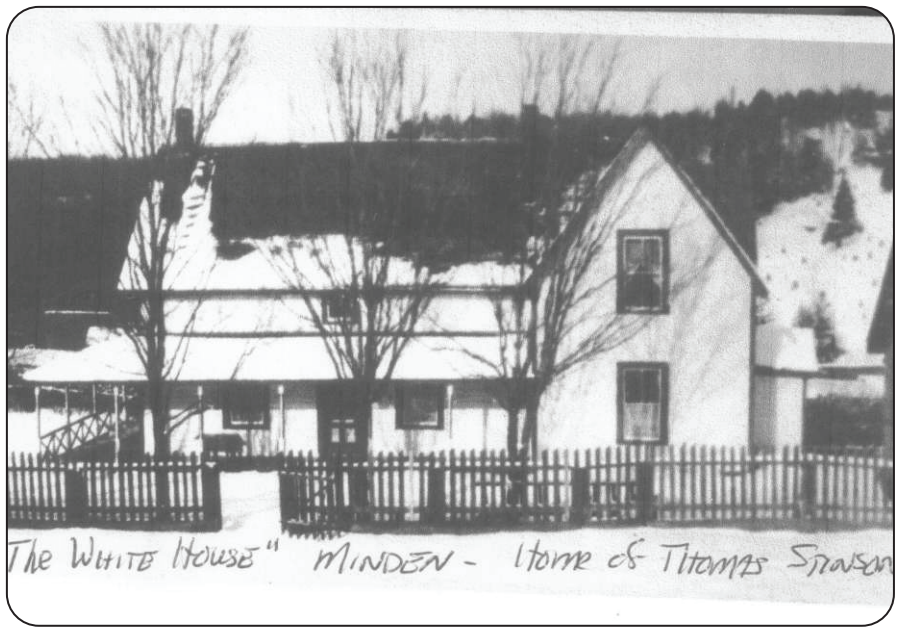
Fast Lane Monday afternoon bowling league

The Fast Lane top bowling scores Oct. 6,
Women: High Single
Clara Vuksic - 192
High Single with Handicap
Leane Tucker - 266
High Triple
Leane Tucker - 484
High Triple with Handicap
Leane Tucker - 742
Men: High Single
Claude Cote - 251
High Single with Handicap
John Pugh - 307
High Triple
Claude Cote - 687
High Triple with Handicap
John Pugh - 823

New bowlers are welcome to join!

Submitted

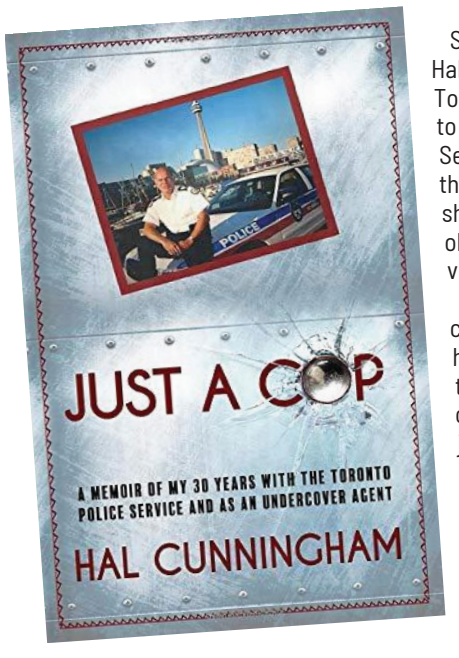
Minden Memories



The home of Thomas Stinson in Minden. /Photo courtesy of the Minden Hills Cultural Centre

HALIBURTON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Book of the Week



Starting out as an unarmed cadet in 1973, Hal Cunningham spent three decades on Toronto's front lines, rising from constable to undercover intelligence officer to Staff Sergeant and Platoon Commander. Along the way, he witnessed the city's dramatic shift from "Toronto the Good" to a metropolis grappling with guns, gangs, and rising violence.

Told with candor and grit, *Just A Cop* captures the funny, sobering, and deeply human moments of life in uniform. More than a memoir, it is a rare inside account of policing at street level - one officer's journey through a city, and a profession, transformed.

Just a Cop by Hal Cunningham is available to borrow from the Haliburton County Public Library. To place a hold or learn more, visit haliburtonlibrary.ca.

Land Trust's Dahl Forest re-opens after ice storm

AMANDA DUNCOMBE–LEE
Guest Columnist

After months of clean up, the popular Dahl Forest in Gelert is ready to welcome hikers to the trails once again. While the trails are cleared of debris from the spring ice storm, the Land Trust advises caution around fallen branches on windy days. /submitted

Haliburton County residents and visitors are once again able to experience the serene trails of the Dahl Forest as it opens up to the public after a major ice storm in April 2025 damaged the property.

The Dahl Forest, located at 1307 Geeza Road off County Road 1 south of Gelert, is a 500-acre nature reserve managed and protected by the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust (HHLT). The property was donated 2009 by the Dahl family and features over five kilometres of hiking trails open to public use.

Adrian Martin, communications and marketing manager for the HHLT, said the ice storm brought down power lines on the property as well as hundreds of trees across the trails and elsewhere, making it temporarily unsafe for visitors.

"Red pine plantations are quite fragile and susceptible to this," said Martin. "There was a big impact there."

The property was donated under the federal government's Ecological Gifts Program, and the HHLT had to seek approval to remove the downed power lines. Professional help was needed to remove trees from the trails; it's estimated at least 20 volunteers assisted with the seven-month clean up.

Martin said the ice storm hasn't been the only recent threat to the protected forest.

"It started with the ice storm, then we had a drought, then we had all these wildfires, many of which were 10, 20 kilometres from Dahl Forest," he said.

Martin said the severity of storms is predicted to increase with climate change, and the community needs to focus on wildfire risk and prevention.

"The other impact of all these trees falling is that now the wildfire risk has increased significantly. There's much more dead fuel on the forest floor; honestly, to remove all that would be unfeasible. It really emphasizes and brings wildfire risk closer to home. This year has really brought a truth moment to all of us in the community."

Martin said that the destruction of the red pine plantation may have a silver lining – the thinning of the trees will allow new and different species to thrive, increasing the biodiversity and health of the forest.

"We're excited to see that succession and new species come in … it's a showcase for how that succession naturally happens over time," he said.

Visitors are advised to exercise caution and consider postponing their visit on windy days, as the ice storm may have compromised the stability of standing trees in the red pine plantation areas of the property.

"We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our donors, volunteers, the HHLT board, and local contractors who contributed to the cleanup, and to the public for being patient as we work to ensure your safety out on the trails," said Todd Hall, HHLT Board Chair, in an October press release.

The HHLT also thanked the Ontario Conservation Accelerator and Margery Cartwright for donating towards the clean up.

The HHLT is a community-led, non-government land conservation charity serving Haliburton County since 2005. The organization currently protects six properties covering 1,394 acres of ecologically valuable land, two of which feature publicly available hiking trails. They also provide land stewardship support to over 50 local land owners through the Partners In Conservation program.

The HHLT welcomes volunteers, including in the areas of trail monitoring, photos and videos, content writing, equipment sharing, committee work, and other areas. Prospective volunteers can complete an interest form at the HHLT website at www.haliburtonlandtrust.ca.

Interested donors can also donate directly on the HHLT website through Canada Helps or via cheque, cash, phone, or e-transfer. Donations help fund trail maintenance, environmental assessments, research, public outreach and other initiatives.

HALIBURTON VILLAGE
SANTA CLAUS PARADE
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21st, 2025 ~ 6:30pm
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True North Strong & Free
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BANDS~ HORSES~MARCHERS~BRIGHT LIGHTS
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At the Town Tree, there will be caroling at 5:30 pm and Tree Lighting at 6:00 pm
The parade is proudly brought to you by the Downtown Haliburton Business Association and the Haliburton & District Lions Club

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HALIBURTON INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2025
WEEKEND PASS $65
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7 - HIGHLANDS CINEMA IN KINMOUNT
2:00PM Frankenstein | 149 min | Mexico/USA | drama/fantasy/horror/sci-fi
7:00PM Special Guests: Hank DeBruin, Tanya McCready - Winterdance Dogsled Tours
Charles Taylor, Kevin Hebib - Movie Armaments Group
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8 - NORTHERN LIGHTS PERFORMING ARTS PAVILION
10:00AM Youngblood | 105 min | Canada | drama/romance/sport
1:00PM Once Upon My Mother | 102 min | France/Canada | drama | subtitles
3:30PM Little Lorraine | 115 min | Canada | crime/drama
Special Guest: TBC
7:30PM DJ Ahmet | 97 min | North Macedonia/Czech Republic/Serbia/Croatia
comedy/drama | subtitles
Special Guests: Ron Mann and guests from Films We Like
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9 - NORTHERN LIGHTS PERFORMING ARTS PAVILION
10:00AM There's Still Tomorrow | 118 min | Italy | drama/history | subtitles
1:00PM Köln 75 | 116 min | Germany/Poland/Belgium | biography/drama/music | subtitles
3:00PM Wrap Party
Buy passes & Frankenstein tickets at thoseothermovies.com.
Single tickets when available, $10 at the door.

Halloween around Haliburton County

This past weekend, Haliburton County saw a number of Halloween-themed events, including pumpkin carving at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre to accompany their Haunting in Minden Hills, as well as a spooky set-up at Winterdance Dogsled Tours in Haliburton. Winterdance will also be offering their haunted trail this coming weekend, following Halloween on Friday. /TIM YANO staff photographer

Winterdance used lights and candles to capture the spooky essence of the season. /submitted

Halloween around Haliburton County

Walkabout Farms in Minden hosted a haunted day-time hike through the woods, with characters dressed up and ready to scare those who dared the journey. /TIM YANO staff photographer

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Local stars

The Red Hawk boys soccer teams have been embracing the fall weather, hosting teams from out of town on the local field. Pictured, the team welcomed Holy Cross Secondary School earlier in the month, where they fell after a close game with a score of 7-2. /TIM YANO staff photographer

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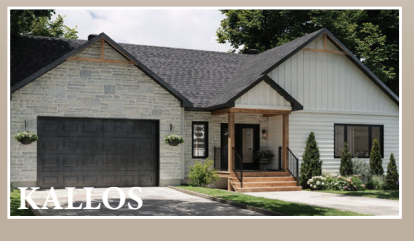
KALLOS

HERA

VIENNA

SVALLA

KALMIA

Red Hawks Rock COSSA Cross Country

Five HHSS Runners Qualify for OFSAA

KAREN GERVAIS

Guest Columnist

Red Hawk Cross Country runners duck under their tent seeking shelter from the hail that concluded Wednesday's races. /submitted

The COSSA Cross Country Championships were held on Wednesday, Oct. 22 at Dunnett Orchards in Brighton, featuring the best of Kawartha and Quinte runners vying for the coveted OFSAA qualifying spots, which include the top two teams in each division and the top five individual runners that are not a part of a qualifying team.

On a day where early morning rain made for slick grass and muddy spots on the course and ended in hail, Red Hawk runners brought their confidence for some outstanding performances that put together calm-headed strategy, speed and gritty endurance.

Novice Girl Quinn Hamilton continued her winning ways, dashing to a sixth-place finish on the 3.7 km novice course, registering the first Red Hawk for next week's OFSAA Championships. Teammate Leah Allder ran her best race of the season to place 39th.

In the Novice Boys race, Alex Lee stepped up his game when the pressure was on, running a controlled but speedy race with a finish-line sprint for another sixth-place finish and OFSAA-qualifying spot, shaving more than ten-seconds per kilometer off his best pace time for the season. Duncan Evans-Fockler continued to show his consistency on the course, finishing 30th and matching his best time of the season. Jaymon Bateman followed in 38 in a field of 53 runners.

In Junior Girls action, Annika Gervais continued to drop time and confidently raced to a fifth-place finish. Gervais improved her time on the course by nearly two minutes since an early season invitational, completing the 4.8 km course in 20:11. Gervais will also move on to the OFSAA Championships next week.

Junior Boys Aren Addison and Tristan Humphries continued to strive for and achieve personal best times. Addison finished 23rd in a time of 19:29 and Humphries clocked 20:59 to land in 38th.

On the 6 km Senior Girls course, Red Hawks runners all put down personal best races of this season and were gunning for a top two team finish from these graduating athletes. Team finishes are determined by the combined score of the top four runners. Despite their impassioned, determined efforts, the Hawks came up one point short, losing 62-61 against running powerhouse East Northumberland Secondary School to finish a strong but heartbreaking third. The girls have been running together since Grade 9, with returning fifth-year student Erika Hoare joining the crew this year after being sidelined with a concussion last cross country season. Violet Humphries finished 8th; Hoare was 10th; Grace Allder 20th; Ella Gervais 24th and Olivia Gruppe 29th out of 72 runners. The graduating students will be missed immensely on the team as their leadership and work ethic has been a driving force of the running program at HHSS.

Violet Humphries and Erika Hoare will still advance to OFSAA as individual runners to round out the strong representation for Haliburton at the provincial championships Nov. 1 at Heart Lake Conservation area in Brampton. The OFSAA championships will feature the best runners from the 18 associations across Ontario.

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NOTICE OF VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARING
COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT

DATE: Wednesday, November 12th, 2025
TIME: 11:00 am.
LOCATION: The Committee of Adjustment meeting will be held in the Council Chambers and electronically via Zoom. The meeting will be live streamed to YouTube.

APPLICATIONS:

1. D13-MV-2024-007 Geller

- The following variances are requested to permit the expansion of a legal non-conforming residential use and area of an attached deck within 10 metres of a high water mark on a property in the WR6L and LR zone:

  a) A variance pursuant to Section 45(2)(a)(i) of the Planning Act R.S.O. 1990, c.P.13 to permit the ex pansion of a legal non-conforming use for an attached deck such that the total area is 46.5 square metres (500 square feet).

  b) A variance to Section 3.19(a)(v) to permit the area of an attached deck on a standard waterfront lot to encroach 50 square metres (538 square feet) within 10 metres of the highwater mark as opposed to the permitted 0 square metres.

- Location: Part Lot 30, Concession 7, Plan 19R-6915, Parts 1, 2, 3 & 6 in the Geographic Township of Dysart, in the Municipality of Dysart et al.
  Roll No. 011-000-47400 – 1756 Chandler Drive

2. D13-MV-2025-026 Keyes

- The following variance is requested to legalize an at tached deck on a lot located in the WR4 zone:

  a) A variance to Section 3.7(a) to permit an attached deck to extend 0.8 metres (2.6 feet) into an interior side lot line setback as opposed to the permitted maximum of 0 metres (0 feet).

- Location: Part Lot 24, Concession 1, Lot 41, Plan 572 in the Geographic Township of Havelock, in the Municipality of Dysart et al.
  Roll No. 060-000-10900 – 1926 Redkenn Road

3. D13-MV-2025-027 Humphrey

- The following variance is requested to permit a trailer to be located on a lot in the RU1-12 zone:

  a) A variance to section 3.4(b) to permit a trailer to be occupied by the owner of the lot and/or their family for not more than 25 months (2 years, 1 month) as opposed to the permitted maximum of 12 months (1year) where a new dwelling is being constructed and a building permit is issued.

- Location: Part Lot 25, Concession 4, in the Geographic Township of Dysart, in the Municipality of Dysart et al.
  Roll No. 010-000-27001 – 4199 Glamorgan Road

FOR MORE INFORMATION about electronic meetings and public participation in an electronic meeting, contact the Secretary-Treasurer at ameijer@dysartetal.ca.

ANY PERSON is entitled to attend the hearing to express his/her views about these applications or may be represented by an agent for that purpose. If you do not attend the hearing the Committee may proceed in your absence, and you will not be entitled to any further notice of the proceedings. The Committee will accept oral and written submissions.

A COPY OF THE DECISION will be sent to the applicant, the agent and to each person who has filed with the Secretary-Treasurer a written request for notice of the decision.

FURTHER INFORMATION: including specific information about the zone provisions affected by each application, and electronic meeting process is available from the Planning and Land Information Department at the Municipal Office by appointment only (8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday) or by phoning 705-457-1740.

Adam Meijer
Secretary-Treasurer, Committee of Adjustment

Here comes Santa Claus
Mark your calendars! Haliburton's Santa Claus Parade is slated for Nov. 21 at 6:30 p.m. through the heart of Haliburton. As per tradition, the local Lion's Club popped by the *Echo* office to hang their banner for the season. /EMILY STONEHOUSE staff

Haliburton food bank strains to meet demand

ADAM FRISK
Journalist

Haliburton 4Cs Food Bank is facing a surge in demand, highlighting the deepening challenge of food insecurity in the region.

Despite a unique self-funding model, the 4Cs said it is "barely meeting client demand" as costs and the number of people seeking help continue to rise.

Unlike some neighbouring food banks that belong to the provincial food bank organization, the Haliburton food bank is a private entity with a critical difference in its operational funding: it is supported by the Lily Ann Thrift Store on York Street.

"We sell the donated items at the Lily, and that's the money we use to buy the food for our food bank," Louise Ewing, Chair of the Board for 4Cs, explained in a recent telephone interview. "So, every dollar we get, we buy food with."

This funding structure allows for the 4Cs to have the shelves more consistently stocked than the food banks that rely solely on reclaimed or donated food.

But the scale of the crisis is becoming more challenging. Ewing estimates the 4Cs spends about $25,000 a month on food purchases alone, not including the funds dedicated to a food voucher program.

"So, we have to make a lot of money," she said.

The voucher program, through an arrangement with Foodland, helps ensure clients have access to fresh items. Twice a month, a single person receives a $40 voucher to which they can use to purchase things like fresh or frozen produce, dairy and eggs.

"It doesn't include meat at the moment because we do give clients frozen meat at the food bank," Ewing explained.

The food bank's services are essential to the county's most vulnerable, Ewing said, and the number of clients are growing. September alone, the 4Cs helped 233 adults and 107 children. She also said that there's an average of three new families a month signing up for assistance.

"And that doesn't seem to be going down in any way," Ewing said.

The food bank identified a significant shift in who needs its help, Ewing said. While it historically supported many seniors, the current client base is primarily single, middle-aged adults. What's especially concerning is the rise in people who are employed, many of whom are working two jobs, yet still can't make ends meet. Even with a steady income, they are struggling to cover essential expenses like rent and debt while keeping food on the table.

"We get testimonies from clients and hear that the parents would not be eating so they could feed their kids," she said. "They would be just feeding their children."

With Thanksgiving over and Christmas approaching, Ewing anticipates a greater need. With all four Haliburton County food banks short on resources, community support is critical.

The Haliburton food bank is open Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays.

MUNICIPALITY OF HIGHLANDS EAST — Yours to Explore — highlandseast.ca

Notice
(Applicant –Weir)

In the matter of the Municipal Act and in the matter of a proposed By-law of the Corporation of the Municipality of Highlands East to close, stop-up and convey certain portions of a Shore Road Allowance along the shore of **Salerno Lake**, more particularly hereinafter described.

Notice Is Hereby Given,pursuant to the Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, and the Municipal Procedures, that the Township Council of The Corporation of the Municipality of Highlands East proposes to consider and if deemed advisable, to pass at a virtual meeting on **November 18, 2025**, at 9:30 a.m., a By-Law to close, stop-up and convey to the adjacent land owners the following described lands:

Part of the Original Shore Road Allowance in front of Lot 1, Concession V, Township of Glamorgan, Municipality of Highlands East, County of Haliburton, shown as Parts 9 and 10 on Plan of Survey 19R-4530, made by **Bishop & Wilson Ltd.,** completed October 3, 1989.

The Plan of Survey 19R-4530 is available to you for inspection by you making an appointment at the Municipality of Highlands East offices, Wilberforce, Ontario.

The above described lands, by resolution, have been declared to be surplus. If you wish to attend the virtual meeting, please call or e-mail the Municipal Clerk prior to the day of the public meeting so you can be provided with a link or phone number for the meeting. If you do not have the capability to attend a virtual meeting, please provide written comments to the Municipal Clerk prior to the public meeting.

Any person or his or her counsel, solicitor or agent who attends the virtual meeting shall be afforded an opportunity to make representations in respect of the within matter.

And Take Further Notice that if the public wishes to participate regarding the purchase of Shoreline Road Allowance please contact the Municipal Clerk.

Dated at the Municipality of Highlands East, Wilberforce, Ontario this 21st day of October, 2025

Robyn Rogers, Municipal Clerk
Box 295, 2249 Loop Road,
WILBERFORCE, ON K0L 3C0
rrogers@highlandseast.ca
(705) 448-2981

Looking for answers at Haliburton Forest

from page 1

Forest earlier in the fall, they paired up with a group of ghost hunters to explore the Kennaway ghost town on-site. This approach leans into the manner of broadening their search from a flesh and blood creature, to the potential for a spiritual side of Bigfoot. But Willis says they will explore every option, with the end goal of finding some answers.

"It's definitely a mystery we want to solve," he said. "That's why we do what we do."

The first few episodes of *Sasquatch University* exploring Haliburton Forest can be found on Wild TV Plus, with new episodes airing on Wednesdays. Willis and his team are open to new tips on where they can track Sasquatch, and encourage those interested to reach out to sasquatchuniversity@gmail.com.

"Sometimes, its something that someone says they see on the side of the road," said Willis, "other times, it's going down the paranormal path. At the end of the day, we just don't know."

> *"It's definitely a mystery we want to solve. That's why we do what we do.*
>
> — Ryan Willis, *Sasquatch University*

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Haliburton County Community Services and ID Clinic

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HALIBURTON

10 A.M. - 3 P.M.
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30

DROP IN - NO APPOINTMENTS NEEDED

Service Canada
- SOCIAL INSURANCE NUMBER
- PENSIONS (CPP, OAS, GIS, CPP DISABILITY)
- CANADIAN DENTAL CARE PLAN
- EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
- CANADA DISABILITY BENEFIT

WILL NOT INCLUDE PASSPORT SERVICES

ServiceOntario
- HEALTH CARD SERVICES
- PHOTO ID
- PROGRAM INFORMATION

Haliburton Highlands Health Services
- MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION
- MEALS ON WHEELS
- COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

youth wellness hubs ONTARIO / carrefours bien-être pour les jeunes DE L'ONTARIO
- SUPPORT FOR YOUTH 12-25
- YOUTH SERVICES
- EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT

Community Living Trent Highlands
- SERVICES FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH A DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY AND THEIR FAMILIES

DCHC
- HEPATITIS C TESTING AND TREATMENT
- PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORTS

Haliburton County Paramedic Service
- VITAL CHECKS
- PROGRAM INFORMATION

Kawartha Lakes Jump In
- HOUSING/RENTAL INFORMATION
- COMMUNITY OUTREACH
- LIFE STABILIZATION
- CHILDCARE FEE SUBSIDY
- CHILDCARE WAIT LIST

Community Legal Clinic Simcoe • Haliburton Kawartha Lakes
- PROBLEMS WITH OW/ODSP OR DENIED ODSP
- PROBLEMS WITH YOUR LANDLORD
- DENIED CANADA PENSION PLAN DISABILITY
- INJURED AT WORK
- FIRED OR DENIED EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE OR HAVING PROBLEMS AT WORK, INCLUDING WORKPLACE SEXUAL HARASSMENT
- HUMAN RIGHTS

Fuel for Warmth — Serving Haliburton County
- FUEL SERVICE PROGRAM INFORMATION

Fleming CREW Employment Centre *(TENTATIVE)*
- EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
- SKILLS TRAINING
- PROGRAM INTAKES

Fleming Skills On Demand Work & Academic Upgrading *(TENTATIVE)*
- ONTARIO SECONDARY SCHOOL DIPLOMA (OSSD) COMPLETION
- LITERACY AND ESSENTIAL SKILLS BUILDING
- PATHWAYS TO POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION OR TRAINING PROGRAMS
- CAREER AND LIFE SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

The Road Ahead Mobile Wellness Clinic
- COUNSELLING AND THERAPY
- SUPPORT WITH ADDICTIONS & SUBSTANCE USE
- HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION
- MEDICATION SUPPORT
- ACCESS TO OTHER SUPPORTS INCLUDING PSYCHIATRY

Rotary Club of Haliburton
- GOOD FOOD BOX

YWCA Peterborough Haliburton
- RESOURCES, SUPPORT AND CRISIS SERVICES

Job Quest — Opening Doors to Employment
- EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
- REFERRALS

John Howard Society Kawartha Lakes & Haliburton
- BIRTH CERTIFICATE FEE WAIVER
- PROGRAM INTAKES
- NALOXONE TRAINING

PARN
- HIV SUPPORT SERVICES
- HARM REDUCTION
- GBMSM PROGRAM
- RAINBOW YOUTH

Central Food Network
- HYDRO HELP (BRING HYDRO BILL)
- TAX FILING (BRING ID, T4S, ETC.)
- ENERGY SAVINGS INFO
- HOME HEATING HELP
- FOOD BANK INFORMATION

- LIBRARY SERVICES
- TECH SUPPORT
- PROGRAMMING INFORMATION

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Nathan's Farm honours the legacy of vibrant life

EMILY STONEHOUSE

Editor

When tragedy strikes, it takes a special type of hope to keep moving forward.

That's what Mona-Lam Deslippe and her husband, Tim, have been channelling to carry on, in the wake of the death of their son, Nathan.

In August, 2016, 27-year-old Nathan, a leadership coach and yoga instructor, was killed in his sleep by a person he considered a close friend. Despite the trials and years gone by, there are still questions that remain unanswered, theories that remain unproven.

But in his vibrant life that was cut short, Nathan made his mark. "His impact was significant for his young age," shared his mother, noting the many lives he touched with his gentle demeanour and optimistic outlooks. "The farm project represents Nathan's spirit."

The project she is referring to is now known as Nathan's Farm; an indoor aeroponic growing system that produces leafy green and vegetables, and donates to those in need.

The project was started in London, Ontario, where Nathan was from, and grew as an initiative during the COVID-19 pandemic, in an effort to share fresh foods when long distances were challenging. It now continues as innovative efforts for food security and agricultural training.

With the London location acting as their urban centre, Nathan's family made the move to Haliburton four years ago. During a visit to the SIRCH Bistro and Bakery, a connection was made.

SIRCH staff stand alongside Tim and Mona, for their presentation of Nathan's Farm in Haliburton. The towers will be growing local leafy greens for SIRCH staff to provide to the community. /EMILY STONEHOUSE staff

The topic of food security in the county is ever changing, and SIRCH has been following the trends and the needs of the community since 2016. At the time, Gena Roberston, the executive director for the not-for-profit, launched a survey to local mothers, inquiring about costs of food, and where that falls into the list of priorities once bills and rent were paid locally.

It was noted that on average, the families using SIRCH support services had designated approximately $200 per month for food, which averages out to $6.50 per day. "That really changed us," said Robertson. "So our community kitchen grew and grew and grew."

What started as 50 meals a month for those in need quickly snowballed to 1,750 meals a month, and 14 partnerships with additional community services across Haliburton County and Bancroft to provide food to their target audiences.

While the organization tries to support local whenever possible, there are challenges with the shortened growing seasons and unpredictable weather patterns. But with the introduction of Nathan's Garden in the community, SIRCH will have access to fresh leafy greens all year long.

According to Joanne Paquin, the food security coordinator for SIRCH, they have been able to produce the equivalent of 45,000 side salads since the growing towers were implemented in August. "That's pretty amazing stuff," she said. "That's food security in action. It's a simple but powerful step, growing together, one meal at a time."

Paquin noted that on average, supermarket lettuce travels 2,400 kilometres to get to your plate. But with the hydroponic towers, she simply trims the leafy greens, and walks a few steps to the kitchen to prepare the food; all grown without pesticides, and available year-round.

Through a community grant, SIRCH was able to secure 12 growing towers, plus a staff member to manage the sites, "This is a pilot project," said Robertson. "Food security is rising at an alarming rate, and having fresh, local food whenever possible, this is just the beginning for us."

More information can be found about Nathan's Garden by visiting www.enuf.farm/about. Information on SIRCH Community Services can be found at www.sirch.on.ca, and they are just entering their very busy season of fundraising and heightened local support.

For Mona and Tim, the parents of a young man whose life was cut short, to be able to give back in a way that honours and celebrates the legacy of their son, that's the continuation of hope for them.

Hustle in Haliburton

Baseball isn't the only sport that's top of mind for local athletes these days. Pictured, the Jr. NBA gathered for a practice this past week, welcoming students from across Haliburton County to explore the sport of basketball. What started as a small initiative quickly snowballed based on interest and need in the community, and the basketball team and volunteer coaches meet once a week at the high school for practice and games. /TIM YANO staff photographer

Fun with folk

A charming and colourful night at the Highland Hills United Church wowed audience with feature performer Mimi O'Bonsawin. Put on by the Haliburton County Folk Society, the show opened with Randall Ellsworthand his lulling guitar, before O'Bonsawin took to the stage to create a memorable evening overall. /TIM YANO staff photographer

More space, more help

How the Heat Bank fundraiser is expanding this year

EMILY STONEHOUSE
Editor

It's that time of year again.

As days get colder and nights get longer, the need for the local Heat Bank has hit a high once again. "Overall, as the cost of living has increased, wages are not keeping up, putting more pressure on families that were already struggling to keep up with costs," said Tina Jackson, the executive director of the Central Food Network and Heat Bank Haliburton County. "We are seeing these same trends here in Haliburton County affecting local households' abilities to keep up with heating costs as well as put groceries on the table."

According to Statistics Canada, in 2023, about one in seven Canadian households had to reduce or forgo expenses for basic necessities, such as food and medicine, for at least one month in the past year in order to pay an energy bill. Almost eight per cent of households reported doing this for at least three months.

This year, the Heat Bank in Haliburton County has seen a major influx in need, with their calls nearly surpassing that which were received in all of last year, before the first snowfall has even arrived.

"We also noticed an increase in calls this summer and fall from people struggling to keep up with hydro bills," said Jackson. "When incomes fall short of expenses, we are forced to make difficult choices - not just about the things we want to do or items we'd like to buy to bring a bit of enjoyment, but rather how to juggle the most basic needs in order to survive."

In 2024, the Heat Bank received a total of 227 calls for support, assisting a total of 294 individuals, from 151 households, delivering 47 loads of firewood and assisting 91 households in applying for hydro credits.

Beyond the ongoing support the organization provides, they also offer tangible services, such as delivering firewood, assisting with funding applications, advocating with hydro companies to establish fair plans and payment, and offering assessments and access for other support services.

On a recent survey, one Heat Bank user had this to say:

"Its easy to get in contact, there's no judgement ... it really is a necessity in these cold northern winters to always have access to a bit of help. I work full-time all year round and do not spend extravagant whatsoever but in the winters I could usually use a bit of help because at most jobs hours are slightly cut in wintertime but not enough to collect EI so even with savings there's always something that comes up."

While the need is imminent, Jackson noted that the access to heat is just a larger part of a multi-faceted issue. "What's not reflected in our statistics, is that it's taking longer to support individual clients as situations are increasingly complex," she said. "This is requiring more time collaborating more with other local support agencies and ultimately more time with each client to provide them with the support they need. We know that heating and hydro are only pieces of a larger puzzle."

So how can the community help? The annual Heat Bank fundraiser is just around the corner.

This past Friday, the organization launched their highly-anticipated online auction. "With items available primarily from local Haliburton County businesses, there is something for everyone and the online buzz is a lot of fun to join in on," said Jackson.

In addition to the online platform, the Heat Bank is also launching a collaborative in-person initiative, this time, with a new venue.

Historically, the event has been held at Rhubarb in Carnarvon. But with the tickets selling out almost immediately, the organizers knew they had an opportunity to increase capacity.

This year, the event will be held at Bonnie View Inn, with food services and support from Rhubarb, Juna, the Post House, and Dimensions Retreats. "This event has always been about a sense of community coming together," said Terri Mathews-Carl, owner of Rhubarb and Juna. "Over the years, we've shared incredible meals and moments that translated into real community support. It just felt natural to invite more neighbours to the table to build on that sense of friends helping friends."

With the event moving to Bonnie View, their capacity for accommodation nearly doubles, allowing for increased opportunity for fundraising and awareness. "It will be a spectacular community gathering," reads a Heat Bank press release, "made possible by the camaraderie between these five local establishments."

Tickets for the event went on sale last week, for the event set for Nov. 9. To reserve your seat, call 705-489-4449.

If the events or auctions are not a possibility, Jackson encourages anyone wanting to help to join the board of volunteers, dedicated to helping others. The organization supports food and heat security, as well as tax clinics and additional community networking opportunities. "Local leadership makes a tremendous impact in helping to fight food and heat insecurity," said Jackson, "making sure none of our neighbours in Haliburton County are left hungry or cold. We are collectively working towards a future where everyone in Haliburton Highlands has enough to eat and sufficient home energy to live comfortably."

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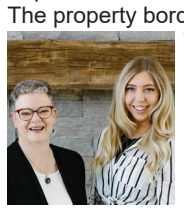

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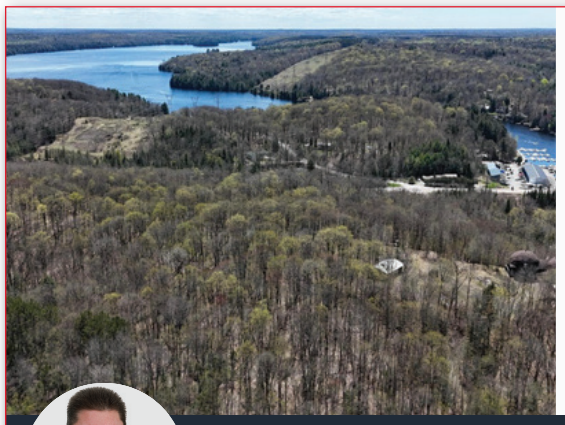

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Spooky stories from our archives

THOMAS SMITH
Journalist

There may be more than meets the eye in Haliburton County. In honour of Halloween this week, let's take a look at a few spine-chilling news stories from our archives spanning back throughout the years. Do you have memories of these haunting tales from the past?

UFO sightings

In November of 1973, Mr. Earl Pitts and Jim Cooper were driving along Highway 35 in Minden. Suddenly an "awesome thing" as Pitts described it, flew over their heads and vanished from their sight in three seconds.

The unidentified flying object was said to be 18 feet long with a glowing front end and a white light at the tail.

Dale Parnell, of Stormy Lake also saw a mysterious light overhead while driving on Buckhorn Road.

Pete Sawyer, of Hall's Lake reported to the *Minden Progress* saying that he spotted a craft that resembled a helicopter without its tail.

In February of 1974, the Lunhams reported to the *Minden Progress* reporter Peter Courtney that UFOs had been visiting every night since the past November. During one event, a craft soared to the middle of Boshkung Lake before shining a bright light. From this exhaust of energy, the frost on their windows melted. When cleaning up the water, Mrs. Lunham noticed that it was hot to the touch.

Intrigued, Courtney brought his camera and tripod to Boshkung Lake several times to try and capture a photo of the strange happenings.

On his fifth attempt, Courtney spotted a dull red light at 10 p.m. The light moved slowly to the north before disappearing.

That same night, a group of 50 gathered along the lake shore to try and catch a glimpse of the event. A group of snowmobilers pursued the UFO across the ice and shot high-powered rifles at the craft. Mrs. Lunham reported hearing a metallic clunk of the bullets bouncing off the UFO's hull. Due to this "hot reception committee" as the *Progress* reported, the craft lifted straight up and rapidly disappeared into the night air.

Residents also reported finding trace landing marks from the invaders and depressions in the ice.

The Lake Glamour Monster

In 2007, a Mr. Brandon Steen, of Gooderham reported seeing a lake monster in Glamour Lake to the organization Paranormal Studies and Inquiry Canada (PSICAN). In September, he had seen a 30 foot creature break the surface of the water. Glamour Lake is located just outside of Gooderham.

After it surfaced, the creature rapidly disappeared under the water. Steen's father was with Mr. Steen when the event occurred. He told him that he thought it was a sturgeon, but Mr. Steen remains unconvinced. He said that sturgeons do not have the spikes or thorns that he had seen along the sides of the lake monster.

"Since that time I have reflected to myself and my wife that maybe just maybe what we saw was a loon playing about," reported Steen. "But deep down I know it not to be a loon because of the height of the wake, the length and the speed in which it appeared."

Steen wrote to the Director of PSICAN asking if the local jet skis had made enough noise to churn up the water and drew the creature from the depths of the lake.

One Haliburton County resident wrote to the Director of PSICAN and said that she had met two fishermen that had spotted a "very large and lengthy creature" in Glamour Lake, but did not wish to speak of their experience.

In the same report, Mr. Steen said that he had seen an unexplainable creature once before when he was 15 years old.

While the report is still available online, drawings of the creature and a map showing the location in which it was spotted have been lost to time.

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Growing stewardship in Haliburton County

RICK WHITTEKER

Guest Columnist

Thank you for your outstanding property stewardship and for joining the Partners in Conservation (PIC) program! This has become a common statement sent to dozens of landowners in Haliburton County. Starting with seventeen landowners in 2023, the PIC program has grown significantly to over fifty PICs representing a whopping nine thousand acres of stewarded land.

The Partners in Conservation program is a project of the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust (HHLT), a non-governmental charity whose mandate is to work to conserve plants, wildlife and clean water in Haliburton County to ensure a legacy of healthy ecosystems for future generations. One way the Land Trust does this is through the PIC program.

The intention of the PIC program is to support good private land stewardship, effectively building greater connectivity with Crown land creating continuous wildlife habitat, improving climate change resiliency and supporting greater biodiversity including species at risk.

Todd Hall, Chair of the board of directors at the Land Trust, announced the expansion of the program recently. "Our PIC program will be expanded to include eligibility for all landowners in Haliburton County." In the past, eligibility was limited to landowners in the Highlands Corridor in southern Haliburton County. The Highlands Corridor represents only about 13 per cent of the total area of the county leaving most property owners ineligible for the program.

Hall carried on by stating that the PIC program "is designed to help accelerate conservation efforts by encouraging private landowners to practice sound stewardship." Recognizing that many landowners are already doing a great job stewarding their land, Hall added that, "we can assist them through the offer of professional guidance and practical services."

The Partners in Conservation program is completely voluntary, non-binding and free. Benefits include a site visit and consultation, relevant stewardship resources, free workshops, an optional Partner in Conservation sign and the piece of mind of joining a group of conservation-minded property owners dedicated to protecting and enhancing the ecological integrity of Haliburton County. Some eligible landowners can receive a high-resolution aerial map of the wildlife habitats on their property.

Working within the present capacity of the Land Trust, only properties of 50 acres or greater are eligible as new PICs, outside of the Highlands Corridor. All property owners are encouraged to contact the Land Trust if interested in the program as opportunities for smaller landowners will likely be available in the future. Within the Highlands Corridor, all landowners are eligible to participate.

For more information on the Partners in Conservation program, visit the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust website at haliburtonlandtrust.ca.

Caring for the community

Last week, 100 Women Who Care Haliburton County presented a cheque to SIRCH for over $12,000. The support helps SIRCH continue to nourish the community through vital food programs and initiatives. Pictured here are members of 100 Women Who Care Haliburton County, SIRCH staff, and Community Kitchen volunteers, who took a moment out of their busy morning cooking and packaging meals to join in the cheque presentation. /submitted

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
20 years ago our founder Fay Martin envisioned an organization creating affordable, supportive housing for Haliburton County. Places for People was born and you are an integral part of it.
Join us as we celebrate our past and look ahead to our future—featuring special announcements, recognition of community contributions, and an opportunity to connect and mingle.
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Refreshments and appetizers courtesy of Places for People
Cash Bar available
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	9		8	3				5
5		1			2		9	
2		6					7	
	5	8	2		7	1	3	
	7					6	5	2
	2	5		4		7	1	
	1				8	3	2	6
7					9			8

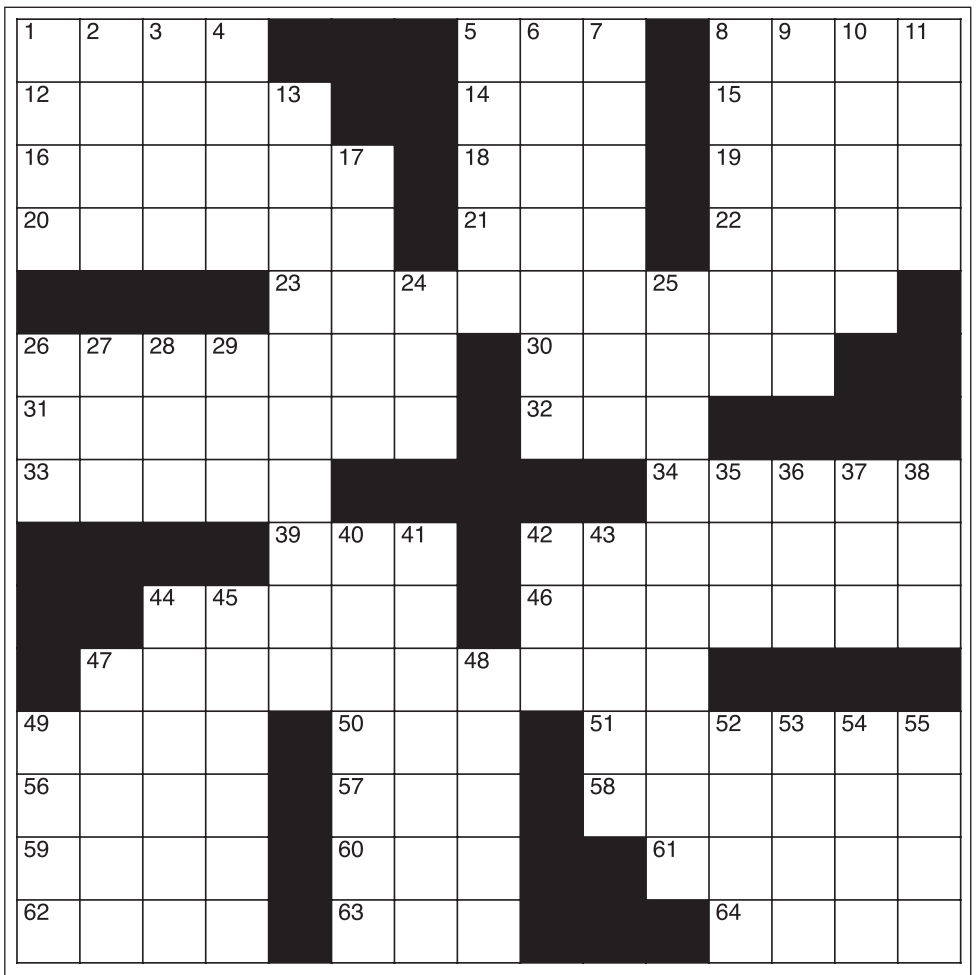
Level: Beginner

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers on page 23



CLUES ACROSS
1. El __, Texas town
5. RockerÕs tool
8. A lot
12. Traveling by ground
14. Spelling competition
15. Two-toed sloth
16. Small perfumed bag
18. ÒMuch __ about nothingÓ
19. Tough-skinned mollusk
20. Removes from record
21. It warms the planet
22. Leafy green
23. Quality of arriving favorably
26. Living thing
30. ÒSix of CrowsÓ author Bardugo
31. Got around a rule
32. Resin from burned substance
33. Iraq seaport
34. Religious leaders
39. Fugitives are on it
42. SamsonÕs influencer
44. Italian city
46. A quality of lacking interest
47. Predatory tropical fishes
49. Nobel physician Isodor
50. Luck
51. Stationary part of a motor or generator
56. Orthopedic professional group (abbr.)
57. One point south of due east
58. It follows 79
59. Paper currency
60. Anger
61. Spanish seaport
62. Sleep in a rough place
63. Famous museum
64. Selfs

CLUES DOWN
1. Bullfighting maneuver
2. From a distance
3. Soul and calypso song
4. Expressions of delight
5. Lower in esteem
6. Inner region of an organ
7. Flowers
8. A bog
9. Remove a fastening
10. Membranes
11. Enormous
13. One who abstains from drink
17. Malayan wild ox
24. Type of student
25. Rejecting all moral principles
26. Sino-Soviet block
27. Egyptian unit of weight
28. Wrong
29. Make a mistake
35. Indicates location
36. BoxingÕs ÒGOATÓ
37. Where wrestlers compete
38. Timid
40. Disney town
41. Suggesting the horror of death and decay
42. Male parent
43. Remove for good
44. Simple shoes
45. Flowers
47. Hindi courtesy title for a man
48. Not pleased
49. ÒAtlas ShruggedÓ author
52. CIA officer and writer
53. Hoodlum
54. __ Von Bismarck, Iron Chancellor
55. Woolen rugs

Answers on page 23

A night at the opera

Last weekend, the Highlands Opera Studio presented four short operas which were written and developed by local story-tellers. The sold-out event opened with MPP Laurie Scott, who spoke to the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) grant received to make the performance a possibility. "This $97,400 Seed grant for Highlands Opera Studio's 'Let's Make Opera' program is an exciting investment in both our community and the arts,"she said. The production was the culmination of the 11-month long new opera creation project /TIM YANO staff photographer

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

S	O	G	E			T	E	M		S	S	O	D
A	T	U	E	C		E	R	I		E	T	O	N
Y	T	H	G	I	E	S	B	E		S	O	B	A
R	O	T	A	T	S	P	A	H		I	B	A	R
				S	A	D	U	C	A	R	A	B	
Y	T	I	D	I	R	A		A	N	E	S		
H	A	L	I	L	E	D		M	A	L			
S	M	A	M	I						A	R	S	B
				H	S	A		D	E	T	R	I	S
		H	G	I	E	L		E	N	O	E	M	S
	S	S	E	N	I	L	E	M	I	T			
E	L	A	K		N	U	S		S	E	S	A	R
G	U	L	S		O	D	A		T	E	H	C	A
U	A	N	U		E	E	B			T	O	F	A
H	C	U	M		P	M	A				O	S	A

SUDOKU SOLUTION

4	9	7	8	3	1	2	6	5
5	8	1	7	6	2	4	9	3
2	3	6	9	5	4	8	7	1
3	4	2	6	1	5	9	8	7
6	5	8	2	9	7	1	3	4
1	7	9	4	8	3	6	5	2
8	2	5	3	4	6	7	1	9
9	1	4	5	7	8	3	2	6
7	6	3	1	2	9	5	4	8

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OBITUARIES

Robert "Bob" Long

Resident of Haliburton

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Robert "Bob" Long, who left us peacefully, surrounded by his family, on Saturday, October 18, 2025, in his 83rd year. Bob was a beloved father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. Whose kindness and music has left a mark on all who knew him. Bob was survived by his sister Gennie Thomas (Dave) and his children: Lisa Thibeault (Claude), Susanne Long (Steve), and Steve Long (Kim). He was adored by his Grandchildren, Tom, Loretta, Dale, Danielle, Nicole, Caden, Rylan, and Tayler, and great-grandchildren Madison, Karley, Hailey, Kale, and Cole. Bob's passions were as vast as his generous spirit, and he loved music, fishing, traveling east, and forever joking with his family and friends. He was adored by everyone who knew him and will be missed by many.

Celebration of Life

Please join us in a Celebration of Life in Bob's honor at the **HALIBURTON LEGION**, 719 Mountain St., Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0 on Sunday, November 16, 2025, from 11 - 3 pm. Bring your appetite, fond memories, and instruments, and be ready to sing or play a song in his memory. Funeral Arrangements have been entrusted to the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME**, 13523 Hwy. #118 Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0 (705) 457-9209.

Community FUNERAL HOME
www.communityfuneralhomes.com

Freda Davis (nee Dugan)

It is with deep love and fond remembrance that the family of Freda Vivian Davis (nee Dugan) announce her peaceful passing on October 22, 2025, at the age of 78.

Born on November 20, 1946, in the Haliburton Hospital, Freda was one of four girls born to Carl and Helen Dugan. Freda married Bill Davis (predeceased), with whom she shared 57 years of a blissful marriage. Freda and Bill enjoyed traveling and dancing together, often to old country tunes, and were blessed to raise three children of their own.

Freda was a devoted mother, staying home to raise her children until they were all attending school. Freda loved spending time with her family, whether baking, crocheting, or just going out for walks. When she wasn't playing Euchre or Cribbage, you could find Freda watching game shows. She also found joy in social outings, listening to live music, having tea parties, or playing shuffleboard.

Freda is survived by her children, Ed (Linda), Sherry (Bill), Charlene, and her sisters, Gloria and Nancy. She is also lovingly remembered by her grandchildren, Heather (Cam), Craig (Cori), Edward (Jessica), Jonathan (Ashley), and Carly (Jamie). As well as her great-grandchildren, Hunter, Lily, and Gordy. Freda was predeceased by her sister Carolen Clark.

Visitation & Graveside Service

Friends and family are invited to call at the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME**, 13523 Hwy. #118 Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0 (705) 457-9209 on Thursday, October 30, 2025, from 11 - 12:30 p.m. A Graveside Service will follow at Evergreen Cemetery in Haliburton. As an expression of sympathy, donations to a charity of your choice would be appreciated by the family.

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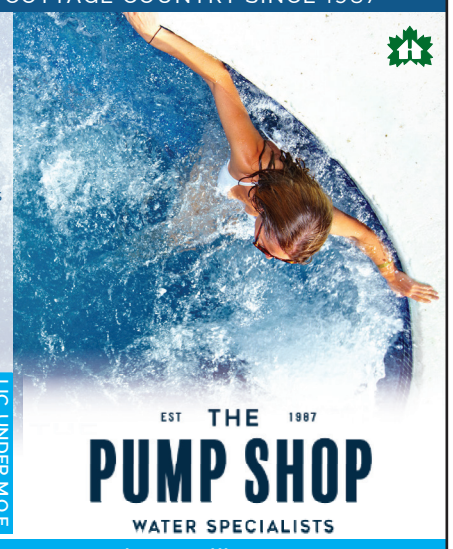

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INSIDE THIS WEEK:

Film Festival
48 Crave filmmakers will be part of weekend lineup of international movies

Soldiers Eager for Visit
Once again, soldiers from CFB Petawawa will be in Haliburton for Remembrance Day

Winter Carnival Returns
Haliburton will be celebrating in February, this time on family holiday weekend

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HALIBURTON COUNTY
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Vol. 125 No. 45 $1.25 INCL. GST
Tuesday, November 4, 2008

Doctors invited back to clinic

JENN WATT
Staff Reporter

Medical staff has agreed to stay at the Wilberforce Medical Centre after Highlands East council reversed its decision Tuesday to evict them from the building on Loop Road.

Reeve Dave Burton met with chief physician Bob Heyes on Thursday morning and said the doctors have agreed to stay.

"I cannot speak for the other physicians and allied practitioners travelling to the Wilberforce clinic, but I intend to resume my monthly clinics. They will not re-commence until sometime in the new year," Heyes said in an email to the Echo.

At its council meeting October 28, concerned residents Kathy Rogers and Pat Simiana presented petitions signed by 550 people asking for a reconsideration of council's September 23 decision to close the clinic.

"This decision was apparently not made with a lot of information. If you had talked to your constituents we could have helped you with the information," Rogers said.

Council discussed the medical centre during closed session because it said the decision was part of an operational review, which contained information on staff members and property.

"We're dumfounded by how you could remove these services to so many people," Rogers said.

See Highlands East page 14

MATT JAMES/Echo

Firefighters from both Dysart et al and Minden battled a raging house fire on Pine Avenue near Sunnyside Street on Monday afternoon. The occupants of the home escaped with their son's help.

Son rescues aging parents from burning house Monday

MATT JAMES
Staff Reporter

Billowing smoke from a house fire blended with a thick blanket of fog yesterday afternoon as the home of Phil and June Mathews at 118 Pine Street went up in flames.

While escaping the blaze Phil suffered a minor burn to the head but June and the family dog were unharmed.

If it wasn't for a phone call from June to her son Tony, working only minutes away at Bernstein's on Highlands Street, Tony isn't certain they would have made it out before the house went up.

"My mom was worried because she thought it was smoke, so she called me to come home and I'm glad I did," said Tony.

See House page 15

Hodgson, Duchene closer to junior world team

MARTHA PERKINS
Editor

Matt Duchene and Cody Hodgson hope they got an early Christmas present when they were asked to represent Canada in an upcoming hockey tournament against Russia.

By making the team the two Brampton Battalion teammates are one step closer to being asked to take part in the junior world championships on Boxing Day.

"This is unbelievable," Duchene said in a story on the Battalion's website. "It's a step towards making the Canadian junior team, and that's something every Canadian kid wants to do. I know I have to keep working hard, and it's a good sign that I've been invited. It should be a great experience to play with that kind of high-end talent."

The game is also important to Hodgson, who was the NHL's 10th draft pick in June. He played pre-season games with the Vancouver Canucks before being sent back to Brampton for the season.

"I need to make a good impression in both of those games," he says. "The tournament is a huge thing, and there's lots of pressure to win, especially when it's in Canada like it is this year."

See Canada-Russia page 11

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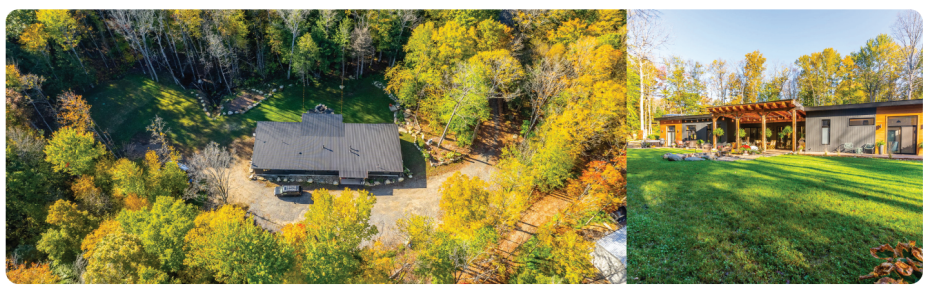

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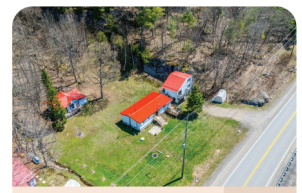
$659,900
MLS X12095585



Kushog Lake — 2 | 4
$599,900
MLS X12140930

West Lake Area — 1 | 3
$579,000
MLS X12411405

Minden Hills — 1 | 2
$419,900
MLS X12415983

Gelert Road — 1 | 2
$350,000
MLS X12267121

Just Sold *New Beginnings*
Kawartha Lakes — 3 | 3
$1,479,000
MLS X12182250

Just Sold *New Beginnings*
Canning Lake — 2 | 3
$924,900
MLS X12199617

Just Sold *New Beginnings*
Kennisis Lake — 2 | 3
$815,000
MLS X12176356

Just Sold *New Beginnings*
Kennisis Lake — 2 | 3
$795,000
MLS X12169805

Just Sold *New Beginnings*
Beech Lake — 2 | 2
$799,900
MLS X12250094

Just Sold *New Beginnings*
Kennisis Lake — 2 | 3
$725,000
MLS X12347900

Just Sold *New Beginnings*
Trooper Lake — 2 | 3
$699,000
MLS X12236448

Just Sold *New Beginnings*
Little Cameron Lake — 1 | 3
$698,000
MLS X12416325

Just Sold *New Beginnings*
Salerno Lake — 1 | 3
$659,000
MLS X12253284

Just Sold *New Beginnings*
Wenona Lake — 1 | 3
$578,000
MLS X12367256

Just Sold *New Beginnings*
Haliburton — 2 | 2
$435,000
MLS X12343741

Vacant Land
Endless Possibilities

New Listing
Basshaunt Lake Rd
$90,888
MLS X1244370
2.19 acres

Deeded Access
Wenona Lake Rd
$95,000
MLS X11953943
0.42 acres

New Listing
Penzance Trail
$109,000
MLS X12440835
11.71 acres

Fort Irwin
Haliburton Lake Rd
$199,900
MLS X12198773
14.53 acres

Now Sold
1297 Bethel Road
$309,000
MLS X12453903
136.91 acres

Adeline Trail
Redstone Lake
$445.000.00
MLS 12220289
18.4 acres

SCAN TO SEE THE LISTINGS

contact@baumgartnerrealty.ca
(705) 457-3461

7 DYSART AVE. HALIBURTON ON P.O. BOX 1086 K0M1S0

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